

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:CLSTERMER:EK

APPROVED BY IO/WBBUFFUM

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TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171124

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, KS

SUBJECT: UN MEMBERSHIP: KOREA AND VIETNAMS

1. ROK AMBASSADOR HAHM PYONG-CHUN CALLED JULY 18 ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM TO URGE AT MOFA INSTRUCTION US EARLY DECISION TO LINK ROK UN MEMBERSHIP WITH THAT OF BOTH VIETNAMS. REFLECTING MOFA STRATEGY ON SUBJECT, HAHM THOUGHT IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR ROK TO APPLY FOR UN MEMBERSHIP THIS MONTH AS ITALY IS PRESIDENT OF SECURITY COUNCIL AND ALSO IMMEDIATELY AFTER EXPECTED JULY 24 VOTE IS TAKEN ON UNEF. HE ASKED ABOUT CONTROLLING THE SC AGENDA ON MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS, SAID HE WAS AWARE OF THE 1948 ICJ RULING ON "ILLEGALITY" OF PACKAGE DEALS BUT HOPED THE US, WHILE NOT LEGALLY LINKING THE VIETNAMS WITH KOREAN MEMBERSHIP, WOULD IN FACT DO IT. HE STATED THAT MOFA BELIEVES THIS IS "LAST CHANCE" FOR ROK TO GAIN UN MEMBERSHIP AND ASSERTED "I CANNOT EMPHASIZE TOO TRONGLY"THE ROKG NEED FOR US DECISION TO LINK VN MEMBER-
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SHIP AND KOREA.

2. BUFFUM REPLIED SAYING THAT ALL THE COMPLEX FACTORS INVOLVED WERE BEING CAREFULLY STUDIED, SUBJECT WAS BEING GIVEN TOP PRIORITY, SECRETARY WOULD BE GIVEN OUR

RECOMMENDATIONS, AND A DECISION WOULD BE REACHED SOON. HE REVIEWED OUR RECENT APPROACH TO THE SOVIETS, AND TOLD HAHM THAT THE SOVIETS SUPPORT NORTH KOREA'S POSITION ON UN MEMBERSHIP AND PRESUMABLY ALSO THE VIETNAMS' RECENT APPLICATIONS BUT BEYOND THESE INDICATIONS THE US HAD NO SPECIAL INSIGHTS ON THE CURRENT MOVES. NO OTHER COUNTRIES TO OUR KNOWLEDGE HAVE PRESSED FOR VIETNAM MEMBERSHIP BUT IT WAS CLEAR WE WOULD BE ALONE IF WE OPPOSED VN MEMBERSHIP.

3. HAHM FORCEFULLY RESTATED ROKG VIEW THAT VIETNAMS SHOULD NOT ENTER UN UNLESS ROK ALSO GETS IN AND THAT AN EARLY US DECISION WAS IMPORTANT SO OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD UNDERSTAND THIS POINT. BUFFUM ASSURED HIM THAT ROKG POSITION WAS UNDERSTOOD VERY CLEARLY AND THAT A DECISION WOULD BE REACHED SOON. KISSINGER

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